

# BEACON LODGE CAMP FOR THE BLIND

*25th ANNIVERSARY PAMPHLET*

*1948-1973*

A Non-Profit Corporation Organized Under the Non-Profit Corporation Laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Chartered by the Mifflin County Courts, August 16, 1948.



Beacon Lodge Inspires New Determination

Beacon Lodge Emphasizes What Blind People Can Do,  
Not What They Cannot Do.

HV1765  
N317

*“And I will bring the blind by a way that they know not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known; I will make darkness light before them and crooked things straight. These things I will do unto them, and not forsake them.”*

*Isaiah 42:16*



*Beacon Lodge is a resident summer camp for blind children and blind adults depending upon financial support from individuals, organizations, and Lions Clubs for its continuing operation.*



CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME

AMERICAN FOUNDATION  
FOR THE BLIND INC.



COMPLIMENTS OF:  
**BEACON LODGE-CAMP FOR THE BLIND**

A non-profit corporation, chartered by Mifflin County Court, August 16, 1948 in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



Beacon Lodge Inspires New Determination

1. Beacon Lodge provides summer camping opportunities for blind children and blind adults of Pennsylvania and other nearby states.
2. The Camp is located two miles southwest of Newton Hamilton along route 103 in Wayne Township, Mifflin County, Pa. and comprises 567 acres.
3. Serves 500 blind children and blind adults each summer.
4. Had a three week experimental camp season in 1949.

5. First official camp season in 1950 for six weeks with 85 people participating for 110 camper weeks.
6. For the first ten years of its operation the Camp accommodated adults only; children were included first in 1959.
7. District Governors Day was established in 1959 and is now an annual affair. Lions throughout the state are invited. District Governors are honored for the work they did for Beacon Lodge during their term of office. Nearly 1,000 Lions participate, chicken barbecue is served and the campers provide a program of entertainment.
8. A Board of 36 Directors (34 are Lions) from throughout the Commonwealth administers the program of recreation, rehabilitation and personal adjustment.
9. Thirty-two well equipped buildings allow for adequate housing, food preparation, dining room service, activity facilities, Maintenance Supervisor's residence and workshop.
10. Lions throughout Pennsylvania support the Camp through:
  - (a) Work Weekends.
  - (b) Provide camperships (\$65.00 a week) for needy and deserving children and adults from their own areas and elsewhere.
  - (c) Transportation of local campers from their club area to camp and home.
  - (d) Build buildings.
  - (e) Provide needed equipment.
  - (f) Contribute toward Trust Fund or Permanent Sponsorship Funds or General Funds.



11. Campers participate in numerous indoor and outdoor activities including hiking, swimming, boating, fishing, bicycling, basketball, shuffleboard, bowling, picnics, overnights, playground, table games, music, dancing, handicrafts, dramatics and other arts, etc.
12. A dedicated staff of counselors, nurses, food preparation and service personnel, housekeepers, maintenance and office workers make this program possible.
13. Year-round staff includes Executive Director (part-time), two secretaries (part-time), bookkeeper (part-time), and Maintenance Supervisor.
14. Beacon Lodge has a new 27 minute 16mm sound, color film (Someone Special) available on loan for club and organization programs.
15. Campers are given the opportunity to attend the church of their choice each Sunday.
16. Who may attend? Legally blind children (ages 6 to 18) or adults may attend for one, two or three weeks -- even longer at times. Camp operates for nine consecutive weeks in June, July and August each year. Separate accommodations for children.
17. Beacon Lodge has a Trust Fund managed by the Board of Directors. When considering gifts or bequests to charitable organizations, remember Beacon Lodge. We depend upon contributions for our continued operation. Memorial gifts and bequests express our concern today for the well-being of our fellow man tomorrow. For information on making a bequest, contact your attorney or write to Beacon Lodge - Camp for the

Blind at the address listed below. To help those who may want to remember the blind and visually handicapped in their wills, may we suggest the following form: "I give, devise, and bequeath to the Beacon Lodge - Camp for the Blind, situated in Wayne Township, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be used for any purpose consistent with the objectives of the said Beacon Lodge in providing services for the blind and visually handicapped."

18. All communications should be sent to Carl Shoemaker, Executive Director, Beacon Lodge Camp for the Blind, P. O. Box 222, Lewistown, Pa. 17044 - Phone: (717) ~~242-5400~~.

**242-1113**

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PEOPLE CAN DO, NOT WHAT THEY CANNOT DO.

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**BEACON LODGE – CAMP FOR THE BLIND  
25th ANNIVERSARY PAMPHLET  
1948 - 1973**

Published by: Beacon Lodge - Camp for the Blind  
Lewistown, Pennsylvania 17044

Editor: Mrs. Edgar J. (Donna) Neiman  
York, Pennsylvania 17402

Printed by: Stutzman Printing  
Mifflintown, Pennsylvania 17059

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# BEACON LODGE - CAMP FOR THE BLIND

## 25th ANNIVERSARY PAMPHLET



### INTRODUCTION

Deep in the rugged highlands of Scotland, lies a tiny village called Brigadoon. This village is permitted to live one day out of every hundred years. It's setting is sheer beauty, it's people are warm, happy, friendly, and loving. Sceptics may smile and say " 'Tis only a legend". But just below the surface of each one of us there is a need for a Brigadoon, and Pennsylvania has one. Beacon Lodge - Camp for the Blind comes alive for nine weeks out of every year.

During this period, it overflows with music, peace, beauty, joy, and much love. Journey with us now with the following pictures and find out how it all happened. If you are very still you may hear it's voices, feel it's warmth, and see it's beauty. No doubt you will want to come and visit. Visitors are welcome anytime. But Beacon Lodge has a mystery of which you must be warned. Your life will be changed as has the lives of many who have visited once and return every year. From this time forward, you will know where love is.



Beacon Lodge Inspires New Determination

Beacon Lodge is situated on State Route 103, two miles south-

9/10/73 - Camp



west of Newton Hamilton, Pennsylvania, along the beautiful Juniata River. The nearest shopping centers are Mount Union, six miles; Huntingdon, eighteen miles; and, Lewistown, twenty-five miles. The beautiful hills and mountains of Central Pennsylvania surround the camp, making it a secluded place for those who require rest, and rugged enough for those who enjoy vigorous activity.

The camp occupies a 567-acre estate through which flows a babbling brook. The Main Lodge is a twenty-eight room structure with comfortable sleeping accommodations for forty persons. Women are housed here. Most of the staff members are housed throughout the facilities with the campers. On the first floor of the Lodge is a large living room with a huge fireplace. The room is furnished with comfortable chairs, a piano, an organ, record player and radio. It is equipped with a braille library and talking books. The large sunporch is a favorite spot for those who enjoy rest and quiet. The office of the Unit Director is located next to the living room. A public telephone booth is located in the dining room for the use of campers, staff and visitors. The large dining room will accommodate 150 persons. The modern stainless steel kitchen is well equipped for food preparation and service. There is adequate refrigeration for keeping milk, meats, fruits, and other perishable foods. Tarentum Hall has accommodations for fifteen persons, female campers and staff are assigned to this dormitory. On the first floor is the Canteen where guests may purchase sandwiches, ice cream, milkshakes, sundaes, candy, soft drinks, coffee, cigars, cigarettes, and souvenirs. In 1968, an addition was made to this building to provide food storage area on the first floor and a second floor area for housing accommodations. The 14-B Dormitory is a one-story cement block structure which will house forty-eight persons. Male campers and staff are assigned here and also to 14-C Dormitory, which accommodates four married couples. The infirmary building consists of nurses's quarters, dispensary, and rooms for patients assigned, married couples, or overnight guests, such as visiting Lions or Directors. The open pavilion provides facilities for special activities such as skating, dancing, picnics, etc.

In Childrens' Village, there are twelve cement block cabins well-ventilated and screened with complete bathroom facilities in each cabin and individual storage cabinets for personal items. Each cabin will accommodate six children and their counselors. A large building also provides kitchen and dining room facilities for the children. It is also a food storage building, living quarters and office for the Unit Director and Canteen building. Each guest is provided a good bed with clean linen, sufficient blankets, bath towels, and a locker or dresser. There are modern bathroom facilities, including showers, in all dormitories.

It is essential that the Camp Health record be received before the guest arrives so that the Unit Director can plan the housing and



other details for a comfortable term of camping. A physician in nearby Mount Union is available for service at the camp and the modern Huntingdon and Lewistown Hospitals are also available in time of need. Guide rails have been placed throughout the camp grounds, from building to building, and to main activity areas. Guests can make a complete tour of the grounds unassisted by following these rails. Sleeping areas in the Main Lodge are serviced by a steel fire escape ramp which gives adequate protection to the guests in the dormitory. Guide rails lead away from the fire escape so that the guests could leave the building unassisted in an emergency. Fire extinguishers and hose are placed at strategic points in all the buildings. Smoking is permitted, but only in designated areas. No alcoholic beverages or any form of narcotics are permitted on the property by guests, visitors, or staff members. Your cooperation in this regulation is required. Campers wishing to leave the grounds are expected to personally arrange these details with the Unit Director. Guests are expected to make their own beds and care for their personal belongings.

Plenty of good wholesome food is served to the guests. The food is placed on individual plates in the kitchen and served over the counter to the waitresses, thus insuring hot food. Each table has a host or hostess to assist in the service to guests. Usually there are second helpings for those who wish more. An effort will be made to comply with special diet needs, but only when such needs are indicated by the physician when he completes the health form. Breakfast is served at 8:30 A.M., Lunch at 12:30 P.M., and Dinner at 5:30 P.M.

All guests are free to do the things they enjoy doing most. Beacon Lodge attempts to satisfy two types of campers. For those who want to spend a restful vacation among old friends and also meet new friends, the program consists of an opportunity for relaxation in the spacious living room or sunporch, a quiet walk on the grounds, the thrilling songs of birds and frogs, the enjoyment of good music, the playing of a quiet table game, such as cards, checkers, or chess, and the enlightening benefits of worthwhile conversation while relaxing under a shady tree. Those who prefer a more active type of vacation may select a program of varied activities. There is a choice of motor boating, rowing, hiking, shuffleboard, roller skating, bowling, campfire programs, picnics, overnight hikes, mountain climbing, bus rides, baseball, wrestling, field events, bike riding, shopping tours, arts and crafts, dancing, sunbathing, and swimming. Special swimming instruction classes are conducted for those learning to swim. There is a qualified lifeguard on duty at all scheduled swim periods at the beautiful swimming pool which is equipped with a modern filter plant and has been approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. A safety rail has been installed around the edge of the pool, not only as a safety measure, but also to give confidence to the blind as they



approach the water. Nearby are located shower-dressing rooms for the convenience of swimmers. A cyclone fence has been constructed around the swimming pool and is locked except when the pool is in use. An excellent playground has been developed for the enjoyment of both children and adults. See-saws, swings, slides, merry-go-round and a TP-bike ride provide fun for all. The bike ride is a unique piece of equipment which enables blind persons to ride a bicycle unassisted. A nice sandy beach has been developed along the creek which borders the playground. All playground activities are supervised by counselors. In front of the Main Lodge, on the port cohere, is the arts and crafts department. Here a qualified counselor teaches the guests in cereamic tile, weaving, leather work, etc. Braille writing and typing facilities are available to the guests and they are urged to write letters. Staff members will read incoming mail to guests and write cards or letters for them. Guests arrive on Saturdays and soon afterwards counselors escort them to their living quarters and familiarize them with their surroundings. Later, they are introduced to other staff members and campers. Saturday evening an orientation meeting is conducted to acquaint all guests with the pertinent information necessary to successful group living during the camper's visit. Each Sunday transportation is furnished for guests who wish to go to church, and in the evening Vesper Services are held for those wishing to attend. Visitors are welcome at camp on Sunday afternoon.



Following is a typical camp day: Arise -- 8:00 a.m., Breakfast -- 8:30; Bed-making and Personal Chores -- 9:15; Card or letter writing -- 9:30; Morning Activities -- 10:00 (Usually there are three activities scheduled simultaneously so that the camper may choose the one that interests him most); Preparation for Lunch -- 12 noon; Rest Period -- 1:30; Afternoon Activities -- 2:00; Free Time -- 4:00; Dinner -- 5:30; Evening Activities for the Adults -- 7:30; Special Activity or Social Hour -- 9:30. Canteen closes at 11:00 p.m. and all adults are expected to be in their rooms with lights out at midnight. In Childrens' Village, the daily schedule is practically the same, except Juniors go to their rooms at 9:00, with lights out at 9:15 p.m., and Seniors go to their rooms at 9:45, with lights out at 10:00 p.m.

To be eligible to attend camp, a person must be classified as



blind, which is defined as follows: An individual whose central visual acuity does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with correcting lenses, or one whose diameter of the visual field subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees. Our only age limit for the adult camp is that the guest must be 18 or over. Men and women attend simultaneously and may stay for one, two, or more weeks. In 1959, Beacon Lodge embarked upon a program of camping for blind children between the ages of six and eighteen. This program has been expanded each year and is quite successful. Childrens' Village is in session for nine weeks and the Adult Camp for ten weeks.

The camp fee is \$65.00 per week and was established by the Board of Directors. Guests who are financially able to do so, pay the entire fee. Others may secure a full or partial sponsorship through the local Agency for the Blind, a local Lions Club, or other organizations.

Registration and Health forms will be furnished upon request to the Lewistown office. These should be returned well in advance of the time the camper wishes to attend, so that he may have the week or weeks of his choice. If space is available, special arrangements can be made for him to stay more than two weeks. Saturday is the beginning of the camp week. All guests must check out on Saturday morning, unless otherwise notified. This arrangement allows time to prepare for incoming guests.

Directions to the camp by car would be as follows: The camp is located in Mifflin County on Route 103, two miles southwest of Newton Hamilton, Pennsylvania. Route 22 runs through Lewistown and past Mount Union. Twenty-two miles west of Lewistown, turn left off Route 22 to Newton Hamilton and after crossing the Juniata River bridge, turn right and proceed two miles to the camp. Those traveling via Pennsylvania Turnpike should use Fort Littleton exit and take Route 522 North to Mount Union. From here, take Route 22 East for one mile, turn right to Newton Hamilton, cross the river, and proceed two miles to the camp.

Camp address and telephone is Beacon Lodge - Camp for the Blind, R. D. #1, Box 137-C, Mount Union, Pennsylvania 17066. Area Code 814 542-2511 - - Main Office 542-9061 - - Adult 542-9005 - - Children. Lewistown office and telephone is Beacon Lodge - Camp for the Blind, Box 222, Lewistown, Pennsylvania 17044 Area Code 717 248-5460. Communications and checks should be sent to: Carl Shoemaker, Executive Director, Beacon Lodge - Camp for the Blind, Box 222, Lewistown, Pennsylvania 17044.

Lions Clubs provide numerous sponsorships for both blind children and adults who could not otherwise participate. Each year many Lions personally drive campers to and from camp. Overbrook School for the Blind, Philadelphia Lighthouse of the Blind, York County Blind Center, Maryland School for the Blind, Branch Offices of the Pennsylvania Association for the Blind, and other private Agencies



have been most helpful and cooperative in processing registration and health forms, securing sponsorships for deserving blind folks, and in assisting with transportation to and from camp.

A Trust Fund has been created to perpetuate the Beacon Lodge program. At present, contributions have been nominal; however, it is hoped that in the decades to come, this fund will grow to a magnitude so as to provide sufficient earnings to insure the camp's operation. This is a permanent fund administered by the Board of Directors. When considering contributions or bequests to charitable organizations, include a gift to this Trust Fund. Any contribution to Beacon Lodge - Camp for the Blind will greatly enhance the development of facilities desperately needed to continue this program for the many blind folks of Pennsylvania.



Lions Dinner Meeting at Beacon Lodge

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### MY OLD WORLD AND MY NEW

In my old world I saw the beauties in it as they really are;  
The moon shining in the heavens and the bright and glittering stars.  
I watched them casting shadows on the breast of mother earth,  
And, what that memory is to me, I just can't name its worth.

I saw them shining on Lake Erie one balmy summer night,  
And the white caps rolling in to shore was quite a lovely sight.  
I also saw them shining on the newly fallen snow,  
And the pine trees white and lacy with their branches bending low.

I saw the sun rise in the east and cross the sky of blue,  
With white clouds floating here and there chasing the morning dew.  
I watched it travel westward and set in a pretty mould  
With beautiful rainbow colors of orange, blue, and gold.



I have seen the soft green meadows, the fields of waving grain,  
And the tall trees in the forest with their leaves all drenched with rain.  
I have seen the hills and woodlands and the babbling little brooks.  
And watched the cattle grazing or lying in shady nooks.

I've seen the valleys with their mountains reaching upward to the sky.  
The streams, the rivers and lakes with their sailboats drifting by.  
I have seen the Thousand Islands and our great Niagara Falls  
And miles of level country -- in my old world I saw them all.

In my new world my eyes are blinded -- there's darkness all around.  
And now I go about by touch or listen for a sound.  
I feel the raindrops on my face, and the soft sweet summer air  
Filled with fragrance of the flowers that are blooming everywhere.

Just outside my window there stands a lovely maple tree.  
And birds of every feather from its branches sing to me.  
I hear the church bells ringing both near and far away,  
And the little children laughing and shouting at their play.



**Campers Leaving for Church**

I now read with my finger tips my books and magazines  
And in fancy I can see all the lovely pictured scenes.  
The homesteads with their winding lanes, their ivy-covered walls,  
With roses twining round the porch and shade trees straight and tall.

I'm very happy in my new world, even though I'm blind,  
For all my friends and loved ones are so wonderfully kind.  
With hands outstretched to help me they lead me carefully to  
The places where I want to go and the things I wish to do.

And I have still another world of beauty to behold,  
Where there are harps and angel voices, and the streets are paved  
with gold.

And when I reach that other world, and in the paths of gold I trod,  
I'll need no hand to guide me there, for I shall walk with God.

Mary Boyd Young, Camper



# BEACON LODGE – CAMP FOR THE BLIND

## 25th ANNIVERSARY PAMPHLET

### HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

*Editor's Note: The following personal account of the history and development of Beacon Lodge was prepared by Carl Shoemaker, the man who knows it best. He founded the Camp and has directed it throughout its twenty-five year history.*

The development of Beacon Lodge began in 1947 when a group of twelve blind people met in the office of the Pennsylvania Federation of the Blind to discuss the need for a summer camp for the blind people of Pennsylvania. We learned at that time, that a number of camps existed throughout the country and committees were appointed on November 11 to research these camps and learn what we could from them. It was my privilege to serve as Chairman of the Research Committee. I contacted the sixteen known camps for the blind to learn how they were organized, operated, and programmed; as well as, methods of finance. Before the next meeting, to be held January 31, 1948, I discussed this matter with Rabbi Manning Bleich, of Lewistown, a member of our Association for the Blind in Lewistown. He had a great deal of interest in the needs of Central Pennsylvania blind people. He told me about a property near Mt. Union available for \$12,500.00, consisting of 463 acres and 4 buildings. He felt I should take a look and report it to the meeting.

I visited the property on the twenty-ninth of January, 1948, and took a real estate man with me to get an appraisal. He felt that the Main Lodge would cost approximately \$40,000.00 to build at that time. At the January 31st meeting, I reported on this property and the group decided at that time that a committee be sent in March to look at the property; and, this was done.

The committee reported in April, 1948, that this would be a pretty big undertaking for our Federation and they suggested that I form a corporation which would be specifically responsible for the development of this camp. By August 16th, arrangements were completed and we petitioned the court and received a Charter to operate in the State of Pennsylvania. In September, 1948, we obtained a Solicitation Permit to raise funds in Pennsylvania for this program.

In spring of 1949, we purchased a one-year's option on the property and a \$750.00 payment was applicable to the purchase of the property, if at the end of the year we decided to buy. We conducted an experimental camping season with a group of blind people in 1949. It worked out so well that we were motivated to go out and raise more money so that by March of 1950, with the help of some Lions friends, we made a settlement for the mortgage of \$9,000.00, which was paid off twelve years later by the Lions of District 14-C.



In summer, 1950, we held a six-week camping season. This was our first camping season officially, and we had twenty-six blind people for eighty-five camper weeks. It proved to be an interesting and worthwhile summer. From 1947 through 1950, we had help from a few Lions who were individually interested in our project. Lion Lewis H. Headings was particularly interested. He was District Governor of District 14-C at that time and agreed to serve as President of the Beacon Lodge Corporation when the first Board Meeting was held in September, 1948. He has been our President ever since.

In 1951 and 1952, we had further camping seasons with continual help and growing interest of the Lions. In 1953, a big thing happened to Beacon Lodge. We were able to obtain the services of Clyde L. Downs, who had operated a camp for blind people in Vermont for ten years and had taught in a school for the blind in New York City. He was with us from 1953 until 1966, as Camp Director. During his directorship, camp attendance tripled. He and I worked together very well and it was my responsibility to register campers and run the program on a year-round basis. Mr. Downs joined us in late June, July, and August when camp was in session.

In 1955, the Lions of Pennsylvania raised funds to build a \$25,000.00 swimming pool, which has been in operation ever since, and is one of our best attended recreation activities. In recent years, a cyclone fence and a heater have been added to the pool area so that we have comfortable swimming even in cold weather. There



are several basic needs in running a camp. First, you must have adequate facilities and equipment. Through sponsorship of the Lions, we have obtained the finest equipment and comfortable and adequate buildings to accommodate our campers. Second, it is imperative to locate and employ a good staff. This is a continual need as our staff is largely made up of college students. After graduation, their permanent employment does not permit them to attend our summer program. Our staff has approximately a 40% turnover each year. Third, we must have a good program. Through the years, we have devoted a great deal of attention to the development of a program which would meet the needs of our campers. We feel that a camper coming to Beacon Lodge should enjoy our activities and also we hope that some of the activities in which he engages will contribute to the betterment of his way of life. Many of our adult campers are newly



blind and will need help in adjusting to the situation. We feel that by association with other blind campers at Beacon Lodge, our campers become better able to cope with the problems of everyday living, brought about by their handicap.

Beacon Lodge was originally planned for adults. But, in 1959, I was challenged by the idea to provide an opportunity for blind children. We took ten children for the first two weeks of that year and this proved so successful that the last two weeks of that summer we took forty blind children. It was then that we decided to make camping for blind children an integral part of our program. This was done over the next five years according to a plan whereby children attended camp for the first three weeks of the season and adults attended for the last six weeks. The same facilities were used for both groups. In 1964, we developed plans for a Children's Village including twelve cabins, dining room and kitchen facilities, and a Canteen building. This area was completed in 1969. The individual cabins were built at a cost of \$3,500.00, and funds were solicited specifically for this purpose. The children use recreational facilities in common with the adults, but not at the same time.

The corporation is directed by a Board of thirty-six Directors. Each director serves a three-year term and twelve directors are elected each year; therefore, the turnover is never complete. Included on the Board are three blind people, as we feel that no one is better equipped to understand the problems of blindness than a blind person.



**Cabins in Children's Village**

The campers come to Beacon Lodge by many routes. Some come by private car, and some by public transportation. Campers arriving by public transportation are met by Beacon Lodge staff members and transported to the campsite by camp vehicles.

One of the most important activities of each camping season, is District Governor's Day. The campers present a program in recognition of the over one thousand Lions who visit this day and also in gratitude to all the Lions of Pennsylvania for their help. The Board is happy that the Lions have come to understand the needs of Beacon



Lodge and that these needs are translated into District and club projects over the coming year. Our visitors are happy that they have come to Beacon Lodge and the Lions can see the work their contributions have provided. They go home pleased that their support has been used for such a worth while program and they appreciate their good fortune in having normal vision.

In 1948, when the corporation was organized, our first contribution was from a blind lady, Mrs. Anne Woglemuth. She made a gift of \$1.00. The Carl Shoemaker Auxiliary, Juniata Branch, Pennsylvania Association for the Blind, contributed \$100.00, and there was a fee of \$50.00 at the time of incorporation, which I personally donated. As the months went by, we gradually developed a bank account, which allowed us to make a down payment for the property in March, 1950. As the Lions of Pennsylvania became interested in our project, gifts became larger and more frequent. The approximate value of our present holdings is \$350,000.00. This includes ground, amounting to 567 acres; a trust fund, amounting to approximately \$12,000.00; and; buildings valued to over \$200,000.00. In 1950, we had four buildings. In 1972, we had thirty-one buildings. The twenty-seven buildings which we added, were all sponsored by Pennsylvania Lions. The 14-B Dormitory houses thirty-six male campers. The Infirmary, consisting of eight rooms, serves as our Camp Hospital. Each cabin in Childrens' Village was sponsored by a Lions District. There are twelve in all. We also possess much fine equipment, which the Lions have purchased over the years.

One of our latest undertakings is a fund for permanent sponsorship. The annual interest from \$1,300.00 currently amounts to approximately \$65.00 per year. This coincides with the camp fee for a week's stay. We are, therefore, encouraging donations in the amount of \$1,300.00 to provide a permanent sponsorship fund for needy campers. This program was begun in 1970, and is gaining ground rapidly. We hope to make it a permanent part of our corporation assets. The future of Beacon Lodge depends, more than anything else, on campers. They must come and most must be sponsored.

A Trust Fund has also been created to perpetuate the Beacon Lodge program. Thus far, contributions are nominal, but it is hoped that in decades to come, the fund will grow sufficiently to provide funds to insure long life of Beacon Lodge. This permanent fund is administered by the Board of Directors of the corporation. You are invited to contribute to this Trust Fund at any time and you are always welcome to visit Beacon Lodge and see your contributions at work.

Of great importance is our operating budget. During our first season, the camp fee was \$21.00 per week. In 1951, the fee was raised to \$35.00 per week. Our present camp fee is set by the Board at \$65.00 per week, which indicates the tremendous rise in our expenses as we grew. About 10% to 15% of our campers are able to



sponsor themselves, but the great majority are sponsored by Lions Clubs and Agencies for the Blind. The camp fee does not actually cover the actual expenses of a camper for a week. In 1971, we had occasion to divide our operating budget by camping weeks and discovered the actual expense per camper amounts to \$84.00 per week. The difference is made up from gifts not earmarked for special use. Over the past several years, we have received small grants from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and these have been used as salary for professional staff. Our annual budget at this point is \$110,000.00. The Lions of Pennsylvania make direct sponsorship gifts of over \$40,000.00 each year. There are also sponsorships that come from Agencies for the Blind for specific campers and most of this money comes to the local Agency from Lions Clubs to be used for campers designated by the Agency. Some of our funds have also come from Foundation grants. These grants are specifically for children. It then becomes my responsibility as Administrator to designate specific campers for receipt of these funds. Another Foundation grant indicates use of funds for children or adults. Here again, it is up to me as Administrator to designate specific sponsorships.

One of our largest expenditures is for staff and we need a large one. During the summer, we employ some seventy-five people in the areas of program, food service and preparation, maintenance and cleanliness of buildings, and equipment. We also have a permanent office with two part-time secretaries, each working approximately twenty hours a week during the winter. As Administrator, I work on a part-time basis the year-round. Our total expenditure for staff is approximately \$50,000.00 out of the \$110,000.00 operating budget. Our most expensive item, after staff, is food, which runs to about \$20,000.00 annually. Utilities, insurance, maintenance of vehicles, etc., make up the remainder of our costs. There are also countless expenses, which would be difficult to categorize.

In 1968, the man who owned a small property adjoining Beacon Lodge, and who had been operating as resident caretaker, offered us his property at a price of \$18,500.00. At this time, we did not have sufficient funds available for the outright purchase of this property. We felt, however, that this property was important to our operation as it contained a house in excellent condition, in which we could place our Maintenance Director and his family; and, we did not wish to see this property



**Maintenance Director's Home**



fall into the hands of someone who might not be sympathetic to having a summer camp on his doorstep. The Board of Directors, therefore, decided to borrow the necessary funds to purchase the property. Two weeks later, I received a letter indicating that a friend of Beacon Lodge had bequeathed to us a grant of \$13,500.00. I had never met the man who made this bequest. He had learned of Beacon Lodge through our camp film which deserves mention. Our Maintenance Director, who resides in the above mentioned house, is a very talented man. He has designed and built many unique furnishings for our camp program. For example, he has built display cases and book shelves for our recently acquired library in the Main Lodge. He also built over 200 storage cabinets in which campers place their belongings. Semi-skilled in building trades, he is also able to meet many of our maintenance problems in the areas of plumbing, road building, painting, etc.

I would like to mention a rather unique concept which we have developed. Many Lions Clubs come to us for weekends between April 1 and the beginning of camp season. The Lions give of their time and skill to assist in such maintenance operations as painting, paneling, laying floor tiles, road and ground maintenance, clearing trails, etc. Beacon Lodge provides room and board for the two days and one night and we feel that the expenses incurred are well worth it in public relations; and, in the valuable work these Lions provide. We usually entertain anywhere from 15 to 40 men. These Lions return to their Clubs newly inspired, and more often than not, our weekend population grows.

Another effort in public relations is our Beacon Lodge film. Over the years, we have made three different films; and our latest one, which celebrates our 25th Anniversary, is our best ever. This film is narrated by John Chancellor of NBC Television and contains not only pictures of the camp, but actual recorded sounds and interviews with campers. We hope to have 22 copies of the film and to make it available for organization showings, television programs, and especially to our Lions for club programs. We also mail at least three reports to Lions Clubs throughout the year, through the State Lions office. One mailing describes registration procedure, one is a report on the season, and the third is notification of District Governor's Day, complete with reservation cards. Keeping the Lions informed is a prime purpose of our public relations program. The method we like best is visitation to Lions Clubs by members of our Board of Directors. These visits give the Lions an opportunity to ask specific questions and it is the responsibility of our Board members to answer when possible, or to agree to furnish required information.

Finally, I think our capacity would interest you. We can accommodate 70-75 adult campers at a time, and in the Childrens' Village, we can accommodate 84 campers. This means that total capacity is approximately 160 campers. During the 1972 camping season, we

were forced to cancel the first week of our season due to flood damage, but we made up for this during the remainder of the season, and most weeks were full to capacity.

It is my sincere hope that anyone having excess to this information will be inspired to visit Beacon Lodge, particularly in the summer when the camp program is in operation .

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**BEACON LODGE – CAMP FOR THE BLIND**  
**CHARTER MEMBERS**  
**1948**

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Jay G. Miller	Lewistown, Penna.
Mrs. Foster Cupp	Lewistown, Penna.
G. Clifford Rice	Reedsville, Penna.
David E. Wetzel	Lewistown, Penna.
Russell O. Webber	Wilkes-Barre, Penna.
Carl Shoemaker	Lewistown, Penna.
B. C. Raffensberger	Lewistown, Penna.
T. C. Matthews	Lewistown, Penna.
Bob Davis	Lewistown, Penna.
Lewis H. Headings	Lewistown, Penna.

— — — — —



**Beacon Lodge Wishing Well**





(L) Member of Lions Club

(\*) Visually Handicapped

## BEACON LODGE – CAMP FOR THE BLIND

### PAST MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

	*	Allis, Mrs. Paul M. (Mary)	Lewistown, Penna.
	*	Ames, Donald	Washington, Penna.
(L)	*	Andrews, Duke	Conemaugh, Penna.
(L)		Barnes, Elmer C.	St. Thomas, Penna.
(L)		Baumann, Dr. Earl D.	Pittsburgh, Penna.
(L)	*	Bleakley, W. Harold	Pittsburgh, Penna.
	*	Brown, Robert	Johnstown, Penna.
(L)		Buettner, Leo J.	Johnstown, Penna.
		Cairne, Thomas	Philadelphia, Penna.
	*	Campbell, Mrs. Martha	Lewistown, Penna.
(L)		Cass, Paul G.	Pittsburgh, Penna.
(L)	*	Clunk, Joseph F.	Philadelphia, Penna.
	*	Cooper, Miss Grace	Philadelphia, Penna.
(L)		Cowgill, Albert G.	Philadelphia, Penna.
		Cupp, Mrs. Foster	Lewistown, Penna.
(L)		Daddona, D. Richard	Philadelphia, Penna.
		Davis, Robert	Lewistown, Penna.
(L)		DeAngelo, Dominic A.	Taylor, Penna.
(L)		Dellinger, Martin C.	Lancaster, Penna.
(L)		Ertel, Luther M.	South Williamsport, Penna.
(L)		Falvello, Conrad A.	Hazleton, Penna.
		Gertsley, Mrs. Isaac	Philadelphia, Penna.
(L)		Gibson, Kenneth A.	Brackenridge, Penna.

(L)	Granche, Stephen R.	Pittsburgh, Penna.
*	Harrison, Philip N.	Harrisburg, Penna.
(L)	Hauseman, Tilghman K.	Pottstown, Penna.
*	Heeresman, Harold	Hazleton, Penna.
(L)	Henry, Arthur J.	Neffs, Penna.
(L)	Hite, Walter E.	Johnstown, Penna.
(L)	Houser, Albert	Lewistown, Penna.
	Johnson, Mrs. Jesse R. (Grace)	Lewistown, Penna.
	Joice, B. S.	Pittsburgh, Penna.
(L)	Kelius, William A.	Levittown, Penna.
(L)	Keller, Kenneth A.	Glen Rock, Penna.
(L)	Kemmerer, Ralph R.	Pittsburgh, Penna.
(L)	Kern, Herbert E.	New Salem, Penna.
*	Kohn, Miss C. Marion	Philadelphia, Penna.
(L)	Kowalski, Frank	Wilkes Barre, Penna.
	Lancaster, Mrs. Mary C.	Harrisburg, Penna.
(L)	Long, Harry W.	Beaver, Penna.
(L)	Lovejoy, Malcolm	Bethel Park, Penna.
*	McDonald, William H.	Norristown, Penna.
(L)	McLaughlin, Edward	
(L) *	Marcu, Edward, Esq.	Philadelphia, Penna.
(L)	Marsh, Charles E.	Greensburg, Penna.
(L)	Martin, F. Kirk	Pittsburgh, Penna.
	Matthews, Mr. T. C.	Lewistown, Penna.
	Matthews, Mrs. T. C.	Lewistown, Penna.
(L)	Mazer, Leonard A.	Pittsburgh, Penna.
(L)	Miller, Dermont C.	Plumville, Penna.
	Miller, Jay L.	Lewistown, Penna.
(L)	Myers, Dean L.	South Fork, Penna.
*	Murray, William L., Jr.	York, Penna.
(L) *	Oristaglio, Ercole	Philadelphia, Penna.
(L)	Overly, James	Greensburg, Penna.
	Plankenhorn, Mrs. A. G.	Williamsport, Penna.
	Plenty, Mrs. Florence	Philadelphia, Penna.
(L) *	Price, L. Leroy	Bethlehem, Penna.
*	Quay, W. Earl	Harrisburg, Penna.
	Raffensberger, B. C.	Lewistown, Penna.
(L) *	Rennard, Frank	Philadelphia, Penna.
	Rice, G. Clifford	Reedsville, Penna.
(L) *	Robbins, H. Griffith	Philadelphia, Penna.
(L)	Samworth, Harry	Malvern, Penna.
	Saxe, David	Mount Union, Penna.
(L)	Schmidt, Orvel A.	Boalsburg, Penna.
(L)	Scholl, Ted R.	Allentown, Penna.
	Shane, Mrs. I. M.	Lancaster, Penna.
	Shapiro, Joseph C.	Mount Union, Penna.
(L)	Snider, Robert B.	South Mountain, Penna.



(L)	Summers, Kennell G.	Honeybrook, Penna.
*	Taylor, William, Jr., Esq.	Media, Penna.
*	Treatman, M. David	Philadelphia, Penna.
(L)	VanSciver, E. J.	Tarentum, Penna.
(L) *	Vinchofisky, William	Mahanoy City, Penna.
*	Wachhaus, Gus	Shenandoah, Penna.
*	Watts, Harold	Pittsburgh, Penna.
	Weaver, F. Emmett	Harrisburg, Penna.
*	Webber, Russell	Lower Marion, Penna.
(L)	Wetzel, David E.	Lewistown, Penna.
(L)	Wilson, Lionel	Newton Hamilton, Penna.
(L)	Yuhasz, Martin A.	West Mifflin, Penna.

## BEACON LODGE – CAMP FOR THE BLIND

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1972 - 1973

Allison, Thomas A.	Kleinman, I. W.
Bell, Dr. John H.	Klingler, Charles
Bowers, Russell J.	Laderer, Dan R.
Brant, Glenn C.	McCormick, J. Edward
Brast, Richard F.	Mentzer, Melvin
Carroll, J. Lee	Milazzo, Dr. Joseph J.
Clugston, Russell A., Jr.	Neiman, Mrs. Edgar J. (Donna)
Collier, Lloyd C.	Ohlbaum, Will N.
Cook, Harvey C.	Powers, Francis (deceased 1/22/73)
Corcelius, Paul A.	Russo, Angelo M.
Dudley, J. Keilman	Schaaf, John B.
Gibson, Raymond T.	Scott, Russell J.
Guth, Lawrence S.	Shoemaker, Carl
Heading, Lewis H.	Stine, Dwight M.
Himelfarb, Dr. H. M.	Thomas, F. W.
Hitze, F. Carl	Wagner, Leon
Incheck, Elmer J.	Welliver, Robert A.
Jones, Mrs. J. Kenneth (Jane)	Wilhelm, John J.



Charles E. Marsh Lake



Campers enjoy shelter from afternoon sun.

### OFFICERS 1972 - 1973

President	-----	Lewis H. Headings
Vice-President	-----	Francis Powers
Vice-President	-----	Harvey C. Cook
Vice-President	-----	Will N. Ohlbaum
Secretary	-----	Robert A. Welliver
Treasurer	-----	F. Carl Hitze
Assistant Treasurer	-----	(Mrs.) Jane W. Jones
Co-ordinator	-----	Carl Shoemaker



### BEACON LODGE - CAMP FOR THE BLIND

#### HONORARY MEMBERS

AS OF FEBRUARY, 1973

Monroe L. Nute	Kennett Square, Pa.
Martha Ames DeWitte	Washington, Pa.
E. J. VanSciver	Tarentum, Pa.
Albert G. Cowgill	Philadelphia, Pa.
Miss C. Marion Kohn	Philadelphia, Pa.
David E. Wetzel	Lewistown, Pa.
W. Earl Quay	Harrisburg, Pa.
Charles W. Mowery	York, Pa.
Dr. Earl D. Baumann	Pittsburgh, Pa.
Charles E. Marsh	Greensburg, Pa.
Martin C. Dellinger	Lancaster, Pa.
Harry W. Long	Beaver, Pa.
Arthur J. Henry	Neffs, Pa.
Frank Rennard	Philadelphia, Pa.
Paul G. Cass	Pittsburgh, Pa.
Mrs. Mary C. Lancaster	Harrisburg, Pa.
Mrs. Grace I. Johnson	Lewistown, Pa.
Francis E. Powers	Harrisburg, Pa.



## CARL SHOEMAKER

Carl Shoemaker lives with his wife at 504 South Grand Street, Lewistown, Pa. He was born in Parkesburg, Penna., on May 23, 1916. Although having seriously impaired vision since birth, Carl attended public school for ten years. Later, he entered Overbrook School for the Blind in Philadelphia, where he graduated in 1936, receiving an academic diploma. Then followed a period of self-employment in poultry husbandry and as a gas station operator. Carl's first opportunity in work with the blind, came with the now all but forgotten, WPA, where many others of Overbrook's Alumni found similar opportunities. He was employed on an education project as Home Teacher of the blind in Chester County from December, 1939, until June, 1941.



From September, 1941, until June, 1944, he taught in the workshop of the Royer Greaves School for the Blind in Paoli; and, also acted as housefather in one of the boys' dormitories. While working in Paoli, Carl found time to commute to Philadelphia, where he completed the Home Teacher's training course at Overbrook, including the required courses at the University of Pennsylvania. He found employment as a Home Teacher with the then State Council for the Blind, in the Huntingdon, Mifflin, and Juniata County area, with headquarters in Lewistown. Carl also found time to spend several summers at the Wisconsin School for the Blind, where he taught crafts, and obtained a piano tuning certificate.

He organized the Juniata Foundation for the Blind, which was incorporated February 28, 1945. Carl left the employ of the State in March, 1946, to become the Foundation's fulltime Executive Director. He later affiliated this Agency with Pennsylvania Association for the Blind as the Juniata Foundation Branch. Through Carl's leadership, the Juniata Branch has acquired an industrial building, which has been considerably enlarged to house an expanding operation.

In August, 1948, Carl was the guiding spirit in the incorporation of Beacon Lodge - Camp for the Blind, and has since served as year-round coordinator of this recreational facility. Over the years, he has spearheaded the efforts which transformed this once single lodge



into it's present fine facility - one of the finest in the country. In 1970, the Board of Directors appointed him Beacon Lodge Executive Director.

Carl is also active in the life of his community. He has been twenty-eight years a member of the Lewistown Lions Club, and serves on the Board of several private, social agencies in the area. He is an active member of the Grove Memorial United Methodist Church, where for a period of five years, he taught a Sunday School class of high school aged young people. For the past several years, he has been Chairman of the Church's Finance Committee. The Shoemaker's have an adopted daughter who now lives in Meadville.

During Carl's long and distinguished career, he has been the recipient of many honors. In 1950, the Pennsylvania Federation of the Blind, of which Carl is a member, gave him its Blind Person of the Year Award, for his efforts in the establishment of Beacon Lodge. In 1968, the Pennsylvania Society for Crippled Children sighted Carl for his work in behalf of handicapped people. On July 27, 1969, at District Governor's Day at Beacon Lodge, the Association of Lions Clubs of Pennsylvania, paid him honor and presented him later with a gift of money, in recognition of his service to Beacon Lodge. On September 28, 1969, the Board of Trustees presented him with a certificate of achievement for twenty years of service.

Carl's whole philosophy in his work can be summed up in one simple statement: "He will not say no to anything that can benefit a blind person if he can possibly say yes."

Carl has two sources of real enjoyment, among many in his life. He takes great pleasure in guiding Lions and other benefactors on tours of Beacon Lodge, which Carl personally conducts. He is familiar with every square inch of the property and knows just who contributed what, in what year, and under what circumstances.

His fund of anecdotes, with regard to Beacon Lodge and it's growth, is absolutely beyond belief. Another major source of enjoyment to Carl is the Campers who come to Beacon Lodge. Carl knows every camper who comes, his circumstances, and his voice. Carl always has something pertinent to say when he meets a camper on the roads and byways at Beacon Lodge. He makes every blind person who comes to Beacon Lodge feel vastly important, because Carl believes that Beacon Lodge is made up of mostly the campers; and, because they are its reason for being.



**LEWIS H. HEADINGS**  
**PRESIDENT OF BEACON LODGE FOR 25 YEARS**  
**1948 - 1973**

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President Headings was born in Lewistown, Penna. He graduated from Lewistown High School in 1927. He then entered the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, from which he graduated in 1931, with a degree in pharmacy. He is married and has three daughters and two sons. In 1938, he associated himself with Lionism and became a Charter member and first President of the Lewistown Lions Club that year. In 1947, he became District Governor of Lions District 14-C, which embraced nine counties including Mifflin County, at that time. During his service as a Lion, he was instrumental in the organization and chartering of seventeen Lions Clubs in his District. He has a wide range of interests in other community activities and has served on several Board of Directors in the community; particularly, the YMCA and the Cerebral Palsy Association. He is a very active member of St. Johns Lutheran Church of Lewistown. In 1955, he received an honorary degree from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in recognition of his community services.

During his term as President of Beacon Lodge, 1948 - 1973, the camp has grown from a dream to a reality. His genuine, sincere interest in the development of this program to provide recreation, rehabilitation, and personal adjustment for blind children and blind adults rubbed off and inspired hundreds of Lions, the Board of Directors, District Governors, cabinets, and Lions Clubs to support the camp project.

He was particularly interested in and responsible for the development of the idea of work weekends, where Lions from throughout the Districts would come to the camp Friday evening or Saturday and work for a weekend prior to the opening of camp, to prepare the buildings and grounds for the camp season.

This program has developed into an important part of the total program. Practically every weekend from early spring to camp opening finds groups of Lions carpentering, painting, miscellaneous repairs, grounds clean-up, etc.





He also conceived the idea of the establishment of a Trust Fund. The creation of this Fund was conceived with the idea that it would bring about a permanance to the entire camp program. Although this fund is presently a modest amount, it is hoped that contributions throughout the years to come will be given to the Trust Fund so that it's potential earnings may play an important role in the future operation of the camp.

President Headings also arranged for Beacon Lodge's participation in State and International Lions Conventions throughout the years and thus brought Beacon Lodge to the attention of thousands of Lions who became interested and later supported the camp.

He also conceived the idea and encouraged the development of a Beacon Lodge film to tell the story of the camp, the activities, and facilities. Hundreds of Lions Clubs know about Beacon Lodge because of the many films that are circulated throughout the State to provide Club programs and raise funds for the camp.

His management of the regular meetings of the Board of Directors throughout the twenty-five years of his leadership has been inspiring to the Board Members attending, resulting in motivating them to go back to their area to work enthusiastically for the further support of Beacon Lodge.

Perhaps one of the most important contributions to camp development was the creation of District Governor's Day, the idea of which he conceived in 1959. This is an occasion to bring recognition to each District Governor for the outstanding work he did for Beacon Lodge during his term of office. This annual occasion has been most significant in bringing appropriate recognition to District Governors and to inspiring the new Governor's to continue the District's support of the Beacon Lodge Program.

Lewis H. Headings is a pharmicist in Lewistown where he has been in business since 1931. He always has time to talk with his customers in the pharmacy about their several individual interests. His devotion to the many community projects he has supported and particularly, to Beacon Lodge, makes him a first-class citizen in these great United States.

Profile Writer,  
Carl Shoemaker

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

With the advent of the 25th Anniversary of the founding of Beacon Lodge, Camp for the Blind, one can only reflect and rejoice in the many accomplishments of this period of time. Beacon Lodge means many different things to the wide spectrum of participants in the program of the camp.



For the young campers, it is a period to look forward to with great anticipation each year. They will be learning to swim, participating in games, catching a trout in our specially-constructed lake of mountain spring water, riding on a bicycle, constructed especially for them (designed by an atomic scientist), or camping out overnight on one of our nature trails. They also become friends with our many dedicated counselors, especially trained to meet the needs of blind children.

For the adult campers, it is a renewed friendship with campers met at a previous season, embarking on adventures with new-found friends, and sharing experiences which become a very important part of their lives. Many have developed entirely new challenges and greater determination in meeting the problems of their existence.

For our counselors, it has been a role of creative happiness, induced by their dedication to assist whenever possible in giving a helping hand to a camper. These counselors have been a singular force in creating the success of the camp.

Our many hundreds of Lions friends have helped to create a better Beacon Lodge by the many facets of their particular interests. Conny Falvello, Paul Cass, Jim Overly, Charlie Marsh, E. J. VanSciver, Art Henry, Elmer Barnes, Leo Beuttner, Albert Cowgill, Dr. Bauman, Francis Powers, Dave Treatman, Ed Reed, Frank Rennard, and Bill Taylor, Jr., have enshrined their names in our history forever by their efforts on behalf of the camp. We shall be eternally in the debt of other Lions including Wes Thomas, Charlie Mowery, Norm Cook, Bob Welliver, Louis Shultz, Izzy Kleinman, Merle Castle, Harvey Cook, Glenn Fry, Martin Dellinger, Will Olbaum, Erc Oristaglio, Griff Robbins, and many others. Also, we remember Mrs. Mary Allis and Mrs. Jesse Johnson. The zeal and industry of these people has been a constant inspiration to all with whom they have been associated in our cause.

The Board members, many of whom were mentioned previously, have always manifested a common trait -- never be discouraged, but work on to greater goals and achievements. A tribute to them has been expressed by their constant attendance to Board meetings, traveling thousands of miles, giving freely of their time and talents. Those who we also wish to remember are: Mary Lancaster, C. Marian Cohen, Joe Clunk, and Ed Marcu.

Many others have contributed their efforts voluntarily, such as Walter Weir, of Langhorne, Pa., who made our first 16mm sound film of the camp, our friend Monroe L. Nute, Past President of Lions International, who inaugurated the swimming pool project, Walter Cronkite of CBS, Peter Roberts of Bell Telephone, John Chancellor of NBC, who in turn narrated various editions of the film, Dr. Robert Rawdon of Lewistown who gave generously of his time by assisting in the production of several editions, Dick Brast, Mel Mentzer, and Bob Welliver, who have inspired Lions of District K, District D, and District R in

film productions, and Earl Lewin, producer and director of our most recent film, "Someone Special".

One of our great resources of assistance has been Max Hamilton, our caretaker. His interests have been manifold in all areas of responsibility, safeguarding our property, and giving of himself far beyond that of an employee.

The demonstration of a complete faith in the project was instituted in 1950 when a group of individuals signed a mortgage to purchase the camp. In the early days, we experienced great hardship trying to overcome almost insurmountable obstacles and problems. We participated in several International Conventions in New York (twice), Chicago, and Atlantic City (twice), spreading the good word, and representing the camp with outstanding displays, which focused attention to Lions from all over the world. Those displays were all constructed by the volunteer labor of Frank Hassinger and Charles Smith of Lewistown.

Past-District Governor Walter Hollenback has been a great resource of help - developing the electronic communications of the camp. Charles Klingler and Paul Corcellius, as directors, have spent many hours continuously in the years of our history managing the property and its development. As Board members, Mrs. Donna Neiman and Russell Bowers in my association have guided our destiny solving many of our problems since our earliest days. They have provided encouragement when it was most applicable, especially in interpreting for us the needs of blind people.

It would be difficult to complete this message without recognizing the splendid services rendered by Mrs. Jane Jones, our assistant treasurer and bookkeeper. Her advice and council in assisting in the managing of the financial records and sharing in the selection of personnel for camp staff each year is impeccable.

A singular force in our history has been Carl Shoemaker. No one could have been associated with him these years of our history without the deep appreciation of the talent of this great man. It has been my privilege to have traveled thousands of miles in his company, learning his philosophy of life and his concern for others who are also blind. To my knowledge no personal problem of a blind camper has ever escaped his attention. The service he has rendered in the management of the camp is of such a magnitude, that one finds it difficult to imagine one person discharging these responsibilities. He has endeared himself to all, who have had the privilege to know him.

In summing up the factors, it is noteworthy to mention that the energies put forth are similar to those, which has made America a great nation.

Lewis H. Headings  
President





**"The King's Chair" overlooks entrance to  
Beacon Lodge, Natural Rock Formation.**

## **SUNSET.**

**By Robert Brown, Camper**

*Editor's Note: "Vacations for the Blind" referred to in the first line  
of this poem was the original name of the corporation  
before it became Beacon Lodge - Camp for the Blind.*

When the sunsets on "Vacations for the Blind"  
And it's fountains spray with crimson mingles gold,  
Then the twilight lends it's hue,  
Blending purple in with blue,  
And the robe of night it's mysteries enfold.

Like a beacon's beam, it can be seen afar -  
God grant that those having sight, may stand in awe,  
Feel that inner, love-born light,  
That their eyes, once holden, might  
See the vision that it's founders, blind men, saw.

These were Roman, Negro, Gentile, Jew and Greek  
With a common blood, they heard a common call;  
May their work in unity,  
Help a troubled world to see,  
Know the God who is the Father of us all.

There's a reservoir, a spring, a "wishing well",  
Dance pavilion and a boathouse by the brook,











That goes on it's merry way,  
With a soft, enchanting lay,  
Leaving euphony in every crannied nook.

High above the Black Road, overhangs a ledge -  
Nature's hand put unique rock formations there,  
In cavern, high and wide,  
Miles deep in the mountainside,  
And the ledge, she fashioned into "The King's Chair".

On the Blue Ridge, with it's forest-breath perfumed,  
From the breakers in the valley, far below,  
Faintly comes a muffled roar,  
Echoed from the Eastern shore,  
Voices of the Juniata's peaceful flow.

From the terrace, thru the spacious port-cochere,  
The wide corridors, the court, the winding stairs,  
Tho it's many guests are blind,  
Readily the way they find,  
And with willing hands they deftly make repairs .

While the monarch of the day hides in the West.  
And ten million distant suns come into view,  
Like the vanishing of sight,  
It unveils another light,  
And they patiently await the dawn, anew.



### RUSSELL J. BOWERS

Russell J. Bowers, Warminster, Penna., is the oldest Board Member in years of service.

Russell Bowers was born in Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa., February, 1915, where he attended public school until age 10. Because of a serious eye condition, which eventually led to total blindness, he was enrolled at the Overbrook School for the Blind, from which he graduated in 1934. He then took a two-year postgraduate course at the School and received a piano-



Russell Bowers on the right



technician certificate. After leaving Overbrook in 1936, he engaged in customer piano tuning and in 1939, was employed at the Lester Piano Company. In 1942, he was employed at the Sharpless Company in Philadelphia as a Quality Control Inspector. Following the moving of this plant to Bucks County, Mr. Bowers relocated in Warminster to be near his work. He has now completed thirty years of service as an Inspector for this industry.

Russell is a member of the Philadelphia Chapter of S.P.E.B. S.Q.S.A., has served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Overbrook Alumni Association, and is a member of the South Hampton Friends Society.

Russell has had a long service to Beacon Lodge, having become a member of the Board of Directors in 1949, although, his interest dates back to the beginning of the Camp in 1948. He now has served on the Board of Directors for twenty-four years, serving as Vice-President for four years, and has been Chairman of the Bylaws Committee and Nominating Committee continuously. He has served on other Committees; such as, the one considering the advisability of the formation of a Childrens' Camp program, the Future Developments Committee, Camp Policy Committee, and the 25th Anniversary Committee.

His first-hand knowledge of the problems and capabilities of blind people has made him a valued member of the Board. He has always been aware of staff needs, program needs, and the need for certain equipment and building facilities. With such awareness, and a keen analytical mind, he has continuously contributed to decision-making for Committees and the Board that have resulted in the advancement of the camping program. He has viewed the total camp program as a camper and a Board member, resulting in a genuine insight into the camping program. The coordinator says, "Throughout my years of service to Beacon Lodge, no individual has been more helpful in evaluating and meeting the problems of camp management. Russell has always offered a listening ear and sound advice in the examining and resolution of camp problems."

Profile Writer,  
Carl Shoemaker





**MRS. JESSE R. (GRACE) JOHNSON**  
**SERVED BEACON LODGE AS SECRETARY FROM 1950 TO 1961**

Mrs. Johnson was born in Illinois and graduated from the Lee Center High School. At that time, she entered and graduated from nurse's training. Following this, she took a course in Public Health Nursing, sponsored by the Tuberculosis Society in Rockford, Illinois.

Mrs. Johnson then worked as a Supervising Nurse for three years in a small hospital in Ottawa, Illinois. She then became a Public Health Nurse for the Consolidation Coal Company in West Virginia for seven years.

She met and married Jesse R. Johnson, M. D. She has two lovely, married daughters and two grandchildren. She is an active member of the United Presbyterian Church of Lewistown. Her various interests and services to the community include: Board Member for twenty-five years and Secretary for seventeen years of the Juniata Branch of the Pennsylvania Association for the Blind, Charter and Board Member of the Mifflin County Association for Retarded Children and Adults, and a member of the Lewistown Hospital Auxiliary, and the Carl Shoemaker Auxiliary. In addition, her eleven years of service to Beacon Lodge as a Board Member and Secretary, contributed much as she successfully carried out her important role of the overall development of Beacon Lodge. Her sincere interest and dedicated giving of time and talent to this program meant so much to all of us during the difficult years in the early development of the camp.

Recently she has been called upon to serve on a committee to beautify Childrens' Village by planting flowers and shrubbery around the cabins and other buildings. Mrs. Johnson says, "As long as I am able I could never terminate my services with such a worthwhile organization. My years of association with Beacon Lodge Camp for the Blind have been a great rewarding experience for me. It has been a privilege meeting and working with a great Board of Directors and I hope I can continue to serve in some small way to make life a little better for the children and adult blind who are guests at this unique place on the banks of the Juniata river each summer".

Profile Writer,  
Carl Shoemaker

— — — — —  
**LETTERS**

**VOICES FROM THE VILLAGE**

*Editor's Note: Here is a small sampling of letters received during and at the close of the 1972 Camp season. These were written by children, many of them thank you notes to Lion sponsors; others are written to Carl Shoemaker personally.*



Dear Sponsor: Thank you very much for sponsoring me for three weeks at camp. I enjoy all the activities and the fun. I wish I could stay longer. At camp, I'm taking swimming lessons. I also like to bowl and wrestle. Yesterday, I went on the Gifford Road hike, 12 miles, and made it all the way. Last Wednesday, we went to the Farmer's Market in Belleville, and might go back next week. On Governor's Day, I was in the Play. Thank you again, Sincerely,

Dear Mr. Shoemaker: I would like to thank you for finding a sponsor for me for the week August 19 to 26th. I enjoy the time at camp and I am hoping that next year I can come back for a whole session. I thought this year's camping was great, and enjoyed the new activities added to the schedule and program. My counselor was great and we got along great, and I enjoyed being in her cabin. Thank you again for getting me a sponsor and I really appreciate it a great deal.



Campers eat well at Beacon Lodge.  
Margaret Cubbison - Head Cook,  
1962-1973

Dear Sir: I had a good two weeks at Beacon Lodge. I will be going home next week. I am having a very good time here. I went on a creek hike last week. This week we are having track and field olympics. I hope our team wins. I hope to come back next year and have just as a good time. Thank you very much.

Dear Sponsor: I am greatly enjoying my stay at camp. We swim, hike, and have arts and crafts. I am very thankful for your sponsorship.

Dear Sponsor: I thank you for the two weeks you gave to me. I will be going home next week. It went very fast, but it was fun. I did many things: swimming, fishing, row boating, and went to two dances. We have a nature house with a rabbit, two guinea pigs, toads, hamsters, snakes, one duck, and two chickens. We will end up with more chicks because we are hatching eggs. Two nights ago, we went on an overnight hike. I hiked eight miles to the campsite. We had a ball. We went to the Farmer's market. They had a lot of neat stuff. Got a go now. And, thanks again. I am looking forward to next year.

Dear Sir: I would like to thank you for making my stay at Beacon Lodge possible. I have enjoyed myself and the time here has gone by fast. There are all kinds of activities such as bingo, arts and crafts, swimming, and music. The people here are really great. I don't know what else to say, except thanks.





Dear Sponsor: Thank you for sponsoring me at the Camp for the Blind for three weeks. I have enjoyed many of the activities that have been going on at the camp. I like having cabin inspection, but my cabin hasn't won any yet. I like making things in crafts and to go bowling. Swimming has been a lot of fun, especially splashing everybody. I would like very much to come back next year. It is so good having a camp, especially one like this.

Dear Sponsor: Thank you for making it possible for me to be at camp. I enjoy everything we have at camp. I can't decide what I like best, because everything here is super. My best dessert is chocolate ice cream. Yesterday, I went to a beach party and we ended the day with a dance. Two of our campers left this morning, but I am lucky because I have one more week to go. Hope this letter finds you well. Thanks again. Joyfully,

Dear Sirs: I am really having a great time this year. This is my tenth year and every year I enjoy it more. I think the best thing we have done is hiking. It is a great way to stay in shape and that's what I come to camp for. This letter is to thank you for money, time, and whatever you have to do to sponsor me for three weeks.







### VOICES FROM THE ADULT CAMP

To my Sponsor: Thank you for sponsoring me at Beacon Lodge. I enjoyed it very much, meeting old friends and new ones. We are like a large, happy family. We sure are lucky to have Beacon Lodge and all the nice folks who work there. Thank you.

Dear Sponsor: Thanks to you and Carl Shoemaker, my wife attended Beacon Lodge together for the first time. My wife had been there several times previously, but I had never had the pleasure. We had such a wonderful time, that we went to Beacon Lodge again this summer. Each time we go it gets better. The staff was wonderful. They couldn't do enough to insure us of a good time. Carl certainly does a wonderful job in selecting the staff and I know it is a job. So far as I am concerned, Beacon Lodge is perfect. I can't find anything to criticize it for. I just hope we can continue to attend because we love it. Thanks a lot.

Dear Sponsor: Again this year, my husband and I attended Beacon Lodge. We had, as usual, a most wonderful time. I had had the good fortune to attend many times before, but it was not until last summer that I could get my husband to accompany me. Now we both attend and we sure have a blast. Thanks to you, the Lions, and Mr. Carl Shoemaker. I would also like to comment on the staff. Magnificent! I don't know how Carl succeeds in obtaining such competent help. Thank you again for making it possible for us to go to Beacon Lodge. Sincerely,

Dear Mr. Shoemaker: Camp this year was marvelous. Many, many thanks to you for a wonderful vacation. The staff was always available and ready to assist when assistance was needed. They had a wonderful understanding of the varied personalities of the campers. The food was delicious, as always. My compliments to the chef.



Again, my deepest gratitude to all those who make this possible. May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family continued success in your work and good health. With deepest appreciation,  
Dear Sponsor: I would like to thank you for my stay at Beacon Lodge. I participated in practically everything. The counselors were very kind and helpful. Nothing was too much for them. My room was quite comfortable and nice and tidy. Thanking you once again, Sincerely,







### CLYDE L. DOWNS

Mr. Clyde L. Downs, Hagerstown, Maryland, served as Camp Director at Beacon Lodge from 1953 to 1966, inclusive. During his fourteen years of service to the camp, much progress was made. Camper attendance increased year after year. At his suggestion, and by way of sponsorship on the part of many Lions Districts, numerous projects were completed, adding to the facilities and equipment; therefore, making it possible to offer better camping opportunities. His fine personality and unique skill in dealing with people, made him an outstanding leader. He will long be remembered and loved by the campers he served.

His background of training and experience included the





following: graduate of Williamsport, Maryland, High School in 1926; graduate of Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York, in 1929; received his Masters of Arts degree from Columbia University in 1946; and, is presently working on Doctorate at University of Maryland. He taught at the New York Institute for the Blind from 1929 to 1947; and, from 1947 to present, is employed in public school education at Hagerstown, Maryland.

During his leadership at Beacon Lodge as Camp Director, Mr. Downs had many interesting experiences which he remembers: "Driving the old camp bus to Philadelphia Lighthouse to pick up a load of children campers (1959), assisted by the Coordinator, Carl Shoemaker; Giving a camper his wallet which was dropped in a train at Altoona, when the camper arrived in camp; A sighted counselor helping a camper to his seat and not realizing that the train was moving and taking him to Philadelphia; The Saturday hunt for baggage left on the train or bus by campers; The night hikers getting lost in the mountains and missing their morning train to their homes; The guide dogs' battle in the living room while campers climbed the walls; The music and fellowship in the Lodge living room; and, the faith and support of Coordinator, Carl Shoemaker, in solving some difficult problems, regardless of long hours."

Clyde Downs was exactly what Beacon Lodge needed during it's early years of growing pains. He was in no sense of the word a desk-bound Camp Director. Clyde Downs was everywhere and anywhere at anytime. He was especially popular with campers because he made it his business to know their names. He always had a kind word and a greeting for the new camper who didn't know anyone yet. He made it a point to introduce new campers to people he thought they would like.

Mr. Downs was an exacting boss to work for, this writer speaks from experience. He wanted the best from his staff, but always had a smile and a shrug of the shoulders for a difficult problem, along with his well thought out solution. Many of his staff members left Beacon Lodge better people, for having worked for Mr. Downs; and, Beacon Lodge is a better place for having had Mr. Downs as it's Director for so many years.

Profile Writer,  
Donna Neiman

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### OFFICIAL CAMP SONG

(Tune of "God Bless America")  
by Charles "Chuck" Bates Camper

God Bless Dear Beacon Lodge,  
Camp for the Blind,  
Where we all there,  
Get the best of care,  
For the body, the soul, and the mind.



Recreation, relaxation,  
And all good things from above.  
God Bless Dear Beacon Lodge,  
With all His love,  
God Bless Dear Beacon Lodge,  
With all His love.



### DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S DAY

District Governor's Day is an annual event at Beacon Lodge. Its purpose is to recognize Lions through their District Governor and to express gratitude to them for their contributions throughout the year. The first District Governor's Day was held in the living room of the Lodge in 1959, and was a dedication ceremony for a new building which had been built by District 14-C. Charles E. Mowery was District Governor of 14-C at that time. The building dedicated at the ceremony was the 14-C Dormitory for married couples, across the fountain from the Lodge dining room.

During 1960 and 1961, District Governor's Day was held on the port cochere and area directly in front of the Lodge, with the campers participating in the program under the port cochere,



President Headings opens program.



complete with piano, microphones, etc. The audience was seated along the roadway.

In 1962, ceremonies were moved to the large green area in the valley, where they have been held ever since. It was in 1962 that a momentous event occurred during the celebration of District Governor's Day. The mortgage on the camp property was burned. This was also the debut of the Clearfield Lions Chicken Barbeque, which has been a highlight of the District Governor's Day celebration ever since. The Clearfield Lions serve approximately 1,000 persons including Beacon Lodge staff and campers during this barbeque. However, there was one historic year when almost 2,000 customers ate chicken courtesy of the Clearfield Lions.



**District Governors receive recognition**

Festivities open with a program given by the children and adult campers, while Lions and their families sit around on the grass. The camp swimming pool is opened and staffed so that visiting children can swim, although the campers do not swim at this time. Now and then if you look very, very closely, you may even see the mane of a lion break the surface of the water.



Following the program, the District Governor's are called to the platform and presented with certificates for their work of the past year, and new District Governor's are introduced. During this time, the campers are served their meal as it is difficult for a blind person to participate in a cafeteria line. Following the recognitions, everyone falls to and eats himself full.

In May of each year, a mailing with regard to District Governor's Day goes out from the Beacon Lodge office to every Lions Club in Pennsylvania. Many Lions Clubs have chartered busses to make it easier for their members to come. We certainly invite each and every person, Lion or not, who is interested to come and see us on District Governor's Day.

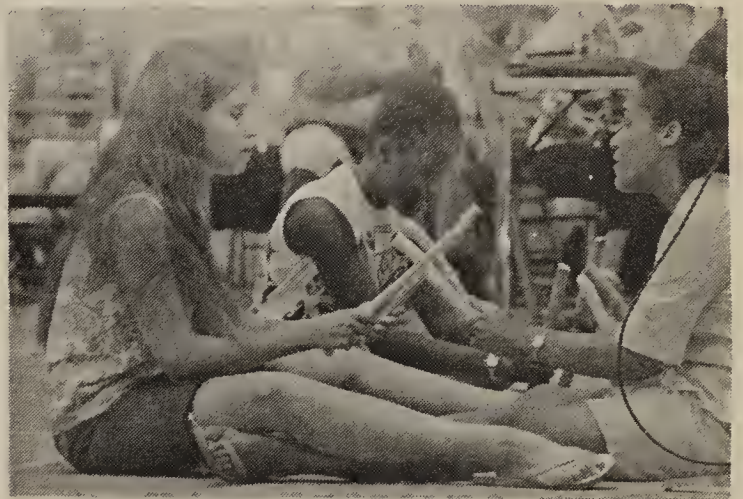


Dr. Modi, a famous ophthalmologist from India and a Past District Governor of the Lions Club of India, frequently honors us with his presence on the District Governor's Day occasion.

All facilities of the camp are open on District Governor's Day and guests are welcome to stroll about at their leisure or to join organized tours conducted by members of the Board of Directors.

A good time is had by all and District Governor's Day is a major component of the public relations program of Beacon Lodge. We feel that those who visit Beacon Lodge go home renewed, revitalized, and re-inspired.

Make your reservation so that we can have a chicken ready for you. We promise you a good time and a rewarding day.



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**MRS. J. KENNETH (JANE) JONES  
BOOKKEEPER AND ASSISTANT TREASURER  
BEACON LODGE – CAMP FOR THE BLIND  
1956 - 1973**

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Mrs. Jones was born in Mt. Union, Penna. and is a graduate of the Lewistown High School. She is a member of the First Baptist Church of Lewistown and is married to Kenneth Jones. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are the parents of two children, a son in Cincinnati, Ohio, and a daughter at home. The Joneses have one grandson.



Mrs. Jones has been a homemaker and has devoted much of her life to the attention and care of her lovely, handicapped daughter, Nancy. She has taught Nancy to do many things around the home and has been able to keep her busy and very happy.

Mrs. Jones is a Charter Member of the Board of Directors of the Mifflin County Association for Retarded Children and Adults, having served in the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and represented this Association on the Budget Hearing Committee of the United Fund. In 1956, the Executive Director met Mrs. Jones at a time when he needed some reading of camp materials done. It later developed that the camp needed someone to take care of the Beacon Lodge books and she was employed in 1956. In 1958, she was made a member of the Board of Directors and elected Assistant Treasurer. She has continued to serve in both capacities since that time.

For several years, she has served as a member of the Staff Selection Committee and her careful attention to the evaluation of each application has been most helpful in finding the person best suited for the many positions in the camp. She has been regular in her attendance at Board Meetings, Committee Meetings to which she has been appointed, and frequently visits the camp during the summer operation. She has served as Acting Secretary on the Board of Directors on a number of occasions and Secretary of the Future Developments Committee for several years.

She has capably processed camp income and carefully managed the distribution of funds in a manner in the best interest of the camp. Her genuine interest in the fulfillment of the camp's purposes - recreation, rehabilitation, and personal adjustment for the campers - makes her an important part of the team.

In addition to taking care of the camp books, she has carefully filed great quantities of important papers, letters, and so forth. They are always readily available for quick reference.

Her many hours of service to Beacon Lodge makes Mrs. Jones a valued Board Member and employee of the Camp.



Profile Writer,  
Carl Shoemaker



## NOTES – PAST AND PRESENT

1. John Bernabo of Bolivar, Pa. blinded in World War II first attended camp in 1954 and last attended in 1972 for a total of 77 camper weeks, more weeks than any other camper.
2. Duane Polan of Washington, Pa. has attended Beacon Lodge for 31 camper weeks, from 1951 to 1972 inclusive, the most consecutive number of camper sessions for any male camper.
3. Mrs. Margaret Sobel of Pittsburgh has attended more camp sessions than any other female camper. She started participation in the Beacon Lodge program by attending the 1951 camp session and has attended all the ensuing camp sessions except 1954. She has attended for a total of 41 3/7 weeks.
4. During the past 23 years a number of people have met at Beacon Lodge for the first time and developed friendships which later resulted in matrimony. According to our information 22 campers met their spouses at Beacon Lodge and 7 staff members also met their spouses at camp.
5. Since the camp began with its experimental camp session in 1949, 1,967 different people have participated – many returning year after year. In 1950, the first official camp session, 85 people attended for 110 camper weeks and in 1972, 497 campers attended for 1,151 camper weeks.



Children riding at neighboring Mt. Tyrol



Arts and Crafts at Beacon Lodge



**MAX HAMILTON**  
**MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR**  
**BEACON LODGE – CAMP FOR THE BLIND**  
**1958 - 1973**

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Max Hamilton was born in Alexandria, Penna., in 1914, and graduated from the Saltillo High School in 1932. He then accepted employment with the U.S. Homestead Steel Company in Pittsburgh, where he worked until 1941. At that time, he entered the Armed Forces and was sent to the European Theater. He remained in the service for four years. At the end of four years, his rank was Master Sergeant. In 1945, he took employment in New York City with the Rosemarie de Paris Candy Company as a Department Head in the Gifts, Novelty, and Display Department, where he worked for ten years.

In 1958, he answered a Beacon Lodge advertisement for a handyman, and was employed on a seasonal basis. In 1961, he was employed on a full-time basis as Maintenance Supervisor, which is the position he presently holds.

He is married and has two children - a girl and a boy. The family are members of the United Methodist Church of Newton Hamilton, Penna. When the camp purchased the adjacent house and barn, Max and his family moved into the house and the barn was converted into his year-round workshop.

Max has been a loyal and faithful worker for Beacon Lodge and has played a significant role in the progress of the camp over these past fifteen years. Most of the expansion of the camp facilities has taken place since 1959, and Max has been there to oversee the step by step progress of each project.

For the past thirteen years, he has worked full-time and full-time to Max is not forty hours a week. From early morning until late at night he is around. It is a comfort to the Board of Directors and the Administration to have such a conscientious, sincere, and responsible person living at the camp, knowing that the camp is in good hands. Max could well be called "Mr. Fix-it". Everyday of the summer operation, many things need his personal attention including such things as leaky faucets, blocked plumbing, dishwasher problems, no hot water, ice machine not working, clothes washer and dryer out of order, and many, many other things. He finds it particularly rewarding



**Seated: Max Hamilton and daughter Nancy**  
**Standing: Carl Shoemaker**



as he goes about his daily tasks to observe the expression of joy and happiness on the faces of the campers who are participating. Max says this is the most important thing to him - to see the campers happy.

In the fall of the year, Max spends a lot of his time putting things away and winterizing the entire camp. During the winter, you find him in his workshop developing plans for the forthcoming camp season where he will improve this or fix that to make the facilities function better. He has a unique talent for making fine things out of wood. As you look around the camp, you will see many things that he has made during the winters, including nearly two hundred clothes cabinets, library shelving and cabinets, tables, benches, and so forth.



During the spring, he becomes engaged in preparation of camp opening. He arranges work-weekends with various Lions groups who come in for Saturday and Sunday work projects, from April until camp opening. He plans the many projects that the Lions undertake and assists them each weekend as they go about the completion of the assigned tasks. The camp has thirty-three buildings and a variety of equipment, and Max must give each building and each item of equipment his personal attention from time to time.

It is practically impossible to say what ought to be said about Max, whose position at Beacon Lodge is so necessary to the hour by hour operation of the camp. His interest, enthusiasm, loyalty, talent, and sincerity makes him so very necessary to the operation of this important project for blind children and blind adults. One of the most important things that has happened to Beacon Lodge was the locating and employment of Max Hamilton. We hope that we may have the advantage of his leadership in the Maintenance Department of Beacon Lodge for many years to come.

Profile Writer,  
Carl Shoemaker

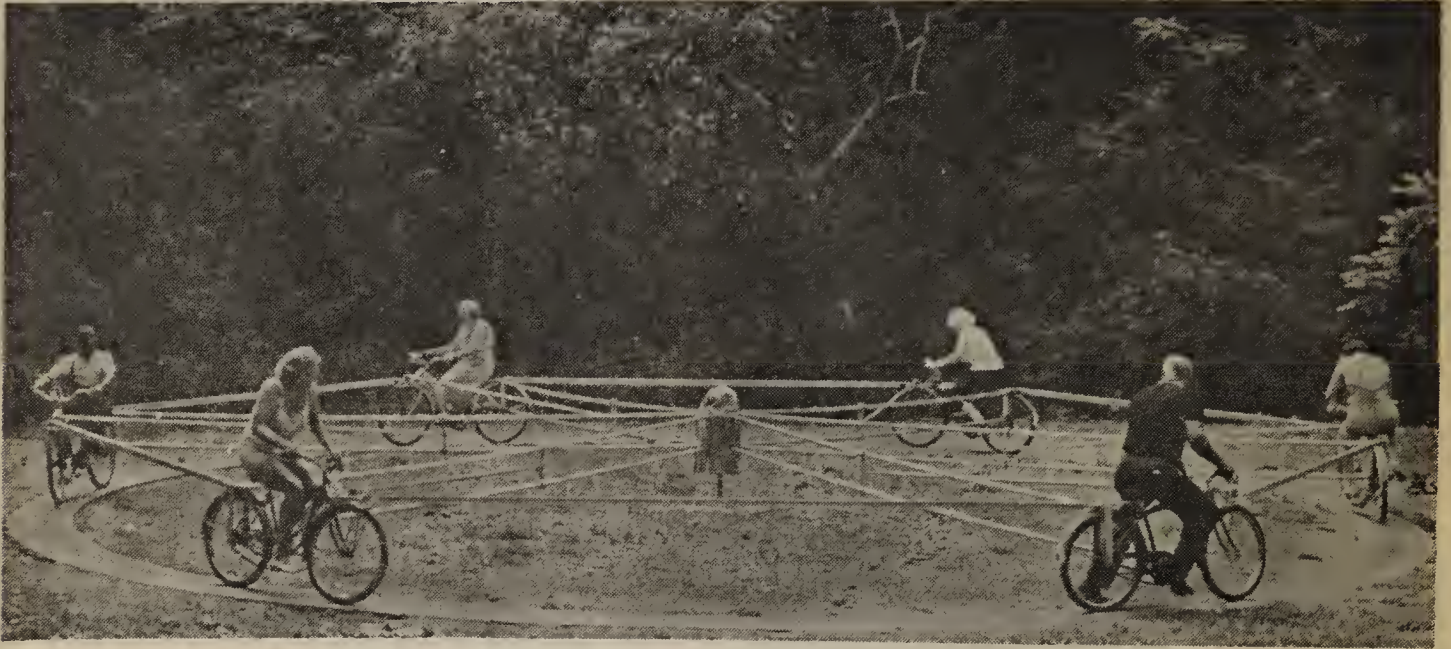


**BUILDINGS, EQUIPMENT AND OTHER PROJECTS  
UNDERTAKEN AND COMPLETED  
1948 - 1973**

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**District**

- 14-A** Sponsorships for Needy Campers; Renovated Adult Canteen; Dining Room Extension at Lodge shared with 14-R; Cabins 1 (Northern Liberties Lions Club), 4 (Kensington Lions Club), and 10 (Upper Darby Lions Club); Freezer - Adult Storage; Adult Food Warmer (Brewerytown Lions Club); T.P. Bike



Ride; Springhouse (Falls Twp. Lions Club); Greg Linn Memorial (100 acre tract of land adjacent to the camp); Grant to Trust Fund; and, New Chairs for Adult Canteen (Upper Darby Lions Club).

- 14-B** Sponsorships for Needy Campers; Sewage Pump; Lamps and Bedding; Clock (Tarentum Lions Club); Adult Dining Room Chairs; Tile for two Tarentum Hall Showers; Radios (North-side Pittsburgh Lions Club); Childrens' Village Kitchen Exhaust System; Mower; 14-B Dormitory; Steel Fire Escape





at Lodge (Tarentum Lions Club); Changed Main Water Source from Reservoir to Valley Spring; Pump in Spring House; Public Address System for Entire Camp; Air-Conditioning in Childrens' Dining Room; Remodeled Second Floor Adult Canteen Building (Tarentum Lions Club); Funds for Replacement of Dishes; Concrete at Bowling Alley; Furnishings (South Hills Lions Club, Baldwin Lions Club, Lincoln Place Lions Club, Greentree Lions Club, Monroeville Lions Club, and Greater Pittsburgh Airport Lions Club); New Roof on Tarentum Dormitory; Air-Conditioning in Adult Kitchen; 2 Tape Recorders; Contribution to Seal Program; Games and Crafts Materials; Aluminum Siding on Addition to Maintenance Shop; Funds for Maintenance Swimming Pool and Sewage System; Funds for Camper Health and Accident Insurance; and Part Cost of Plans for Activity Building.

- 14-C ½ Ton Chevy Truck; Childrens' Village Mixer; Infirmary; 14-C Dormitory for married couples; Road and Wharf at River; Cabin 6 (York-Downtown Lions Club), 7, and 8 (Spring Grove Lions Club); Childrens' Village Food Storage Area; Assistant Camp Director's Office Furniture; Retaining Wall at Front Gate; Recreation Platform; Tile floors for Recreation Building; Tile and Ceiling for Cabin 8; Childrens' Village Maple Top Table; Electricity and Plumbing for Childrens' Village Dishwasher Room; Dining Room Chairs for Childrens' Village; Water Pump and Chlorinator; ¾ Ton Chevy Truck (Mt. Rose Lions Club); Meat Slicer for Childrens' Village Kitchen; Cement Mixer; Lawn Furniture; Chemical Feeder, Table Games, Musical Selections and Talking Books (Devers Lions Club Auxiliary); Portable Salad Cooler; Dock; Mattresses (Springettsbury Lions Club); Adult Food Storage Building with Finished Rooms above; Decorated Room 1 in Lodge (Kreutz Creek Valley Lions Club Auxiliary); Paid Off Mortgage in 1962; Water Storage Tank for Domestic Water System; Fire Extinguishers; Gas Heater in Adult Dining Room (Upper Adams Lions Club); Improvement to Main Dining Room Food Disposal Area (Gettysburg Lions Club); Repairs to Showers in Lodge (Mt. Rose Lions Club); Tables and Chairs for Activities Building (Fairfield Lions Clubs and others); Insurance for Fire and Extended Coverage; Furniture for Unit Director's





Office in Childrens' Village; Replacement of Bridge to Pool; Funds for Maintenance; and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.

- 14-D Road Signs; Tile Flooring in Administration Building; Benches; Childrens' Village Dishwasher Room (Willow Street Lions Club); Workshop Equipment shared with 14-N; New Waterline from Reservoir to the Chlorination Building; Weaving Loom; Funds toward a Bus; Sewage Treatment System shared with 14-G, 14-P, and 14-T; Meat Slicer In Adult Kitchen; Baker's Table in Childrens' Village; Dish Cart and Small Mixer for Childrens' Village Kitchen; Shared Sponsorship of New Film with 14-K; Air-Conditioning for Adult Canteen; Wood-turning Lathe; Various Tools; and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.



- 14-E Paved Parking Area; Shelter for 14-C Dormitory; Paid Labor for Installation of Canopy and Exhaust System in Childrens' Village Kitchen; Major Pool Repairs; Water Purification



System; Charles E. Marsh Lake and Boats; Administration Building; John Boats for the Lake; and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.

- 14-F Childrens' Village Kitchen Air-Conditioning; District Governor's Day Program Shelter; Overnight Trail Shelter; Gas Heaters in Childrens' Village Cabins and Quarters; Braille Writer (Grove City Lions Auxiliary); Childrens' Village Refrigerators; Overnight Cabin and Trail Improvements; Swimming Pool Heater; Tile Installation in Administration Building; Drapes; and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.



- 14-G New Bridge; Shelter at 14-B Dormitory; Sewing Machine (McClure Lions Club); Grand Piano (Lock Haven Lions Club); Typewriters (Kulpmont Lions Club); and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.



- 14-H Recreation Building in Childrens' Village shared with 14-L (Now occupied as the Dining Room and Kitchen for the Childrens' Village); and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.
- 14-J Office Furniture in Administration Office; Dishwasher in Adult Kitchen; Moved Clearfield Cottage from along the Stream to site near Infirmary; Shared with 14-T in Rebuilding Kitchen at Lodge; Central Air-Conditioning and Heating System in Infirmary; Beds, mattresses, and pillows; One-week Permanent Sponsorship Fund; Funds for Workmen's Compensation Insurance; Electric Typewriter; Musical Handbells; Prepared and Served Chicken Barbeque Dinners for District Governor's Day (Clearfield Lions Club); and Sponsorships for Needy Campers.



- 14-K Arthur J. Henry Memorial Fountain; Arthur J. Henry Memorial 3-week Permanent Sponsorship Fund; Cabinet for Aids and Appliances, also Aids and Appliances, Arthur H. Henry Memorial (Upper Lehigh Lions Club); J. Keilman Dudley Memorial Permanent Sponsorship Fund; Adult Dining Room Chairs; Childrens' Village Unit Director's Office and Living Quarters shared with 14-P; Stainless Steel Work Table in



Childrens' Village Kitchen; Storage Equipment Building; Bowling Alley Shelter; Potato Peeler in Childrens' Village Kitchen (Upper Lehigh Lions Club); Foodwarmer in Childrens' Village Kitchen; Food Storage Shelving in Adult Food Storage Room; Mixer in Adult Kitchen (Mountainville Lions Club); Dance and Recreation Pavilion; Pool Bath House and Showers; Improvements to Maintenance Workshop shared with 14-N; Paved Parking Area at Administration Building shared with 14-M; Shared in Sponsorship of New Film with 14-D;



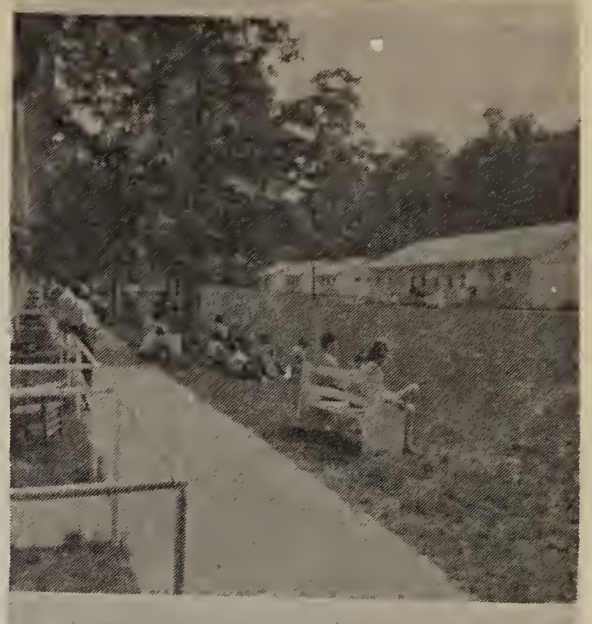
Decorated Room A in Lodge (Upper Lehigh Lions Club); Canopy in Childrens' Village Kitchen; Improvement in Main Lodge 1st Floor Restrooms (Mountainville Lions Club); Chevrolet Van; Electric Stove in Childrens' Village; Safe in Camp Director's Office; Washer and Dryer in Basement of Lodge; Citizens Band Communication System; and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.

- 14- L Lawn Furniture; Boat and Motor; Toaster in Adult Kitchen; Organ (Altoona Lions Club); Recreation Building in Childrens' Village shared with 14-L (Now occupied as the Dining Room and Kitchen for the Childrens' Village); Walk-in Refrigerator for Adult Camp; Cabins 2 and 9; Wading Pool and Playground Equipment; Hand-Car Ride in Childrens' Village; Library Furniture (Robertsdale Lions Club); Maintenance Funds; Flower and Shrubbery Planting in Childrens' Village; Development of Trail; and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.





- 14-M Salad Refrigerator in Adult Kitchen; Salad Maker in Childrens' Village Kitchen; Ice Machine in Childrens' Village; Vegetable Sink in Adult Kitchen; Fill, Grading, and Landscaping in Childrens' Village; Dining Room Furniture in Childrens' Village; Amiesited Parking Lots; Modernized Bathrooms in Main Lodge - Mezzanine Floor; Gift to Seal Program; Funds for Insurance on Vehicles; Canteen Fund for Needy Campers; Maintenance Equipment Funds; Deep Freeze; and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.



- 14-N Outboard Motor; 16mm Movie Projector; Lion-Head Drinking Fountain; Lawn Mower; Dwelling Carport and Porch Enclosure; Adult Dining Room Shelter; Adult Kitchen Shelter; Screendoors for entire Childrens' Village; Stack Oven in Childrens' Village; Workshop Equipment shared with 14-D; Improvements to Maintenance Shop shared with 14-K; Cabin #3; 2 Braille Writers; Railing and Ramp to Route 103; Funds for Lake Repair; Provided a Permanent Sponsorship Fund; Shelves in Refrigerator Room in Adult Camp; and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.

- 14-P Pontoon Boat; Furniture, Floor and Ceiling Tile in Childrens' Village Unit Director's Office and Living Quarters; Kiln; Construction of Unit Director's Office and Living Quarters shared with 14-K; Electric Braille Writer; Record Player for Adult Camp; Bus (Frazer Lions Club); Sewage Treatment Plant shared with 14-D, 14-G, and 14-T; Weaving Loom; Built and Paved Roads throughout the Camp; Cabin #12 (Sinking Springs Lions Club); IBM Stock for Trust Fund; Adult Activities Building; Table; Arts and Crafts Fund for Needy Campers; Stereo AM-FM Radio-Record Player in Childrens' Village; and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.





- 14-R Sponsorships for Needy Campers; Tractor-Mower; Dining Room Folding Chairs and Tables; Portable Radios; Large Dining Room shared with 14-A; Arranging a Laundry Room Facility in the Shower Room-Dressing Room Building, including the provision of Washers and Dryers; Reconditioning of the Camp Lake; Funds toward a Bus; Tile for Main Lodge, Administration Building, and Swimming Pool (American Olean Tile Company) .



- 14-T Sewage Treatment System shared with 14-D, 14-G, and 14-P; Paneling walls and ceilings in Rooms D, E, I, and Hallways in Lodge, Tarentum, Adult Canteen, Clearfield Cottage, and Maintenance Supervisor's Workshop (Paxtang Lions Club); Drinking Fountains; Walk-in Refrigerator and Freezer in Childrens' Village Kitchen; Portable Public Address System; Cyclone Fence around Swimming Pool; 1969 - 12-passenger Ford Station Wagon; Ice Machine in Adult Camp; Shared with 14-J in Rebuilding Kitchen at Lodge; Bowling Area built in two sections (Chambersburg Lions Club); Air-Conditioning in Large and Small Dining Rooms (Chambersburg Lions Club); Cabin #11; Canteen in Childrens' Village; Provided some Kitchen Equipment in Childrens' Village; Permanent Library Fund; and, Sponsorships for Needy Campers.
- 22-A Cabin #5



Lions of Pennsylvania

Swimming Pool and Filter House, Chevrolet Greenbriar Bus  
(S & H Green Stamps); Work Weekends.





Walter Weir of Langhorne and Dr. Robert Rawdon of Lewistown

Assisted in Filming Campsites and Activities for two earlier sound films.

1973 Film, "Someone Special"

Earl Lewin, Producer-Director and John Chancellor, Narrator.



CONTRIBUTIONS TO GENERAL FUNDS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED  
FROM ALL DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT THE CAMP HISTORY.







HV1765 Neiman, Donna, ed. c. 1  
N317 BEACON LODGE - CAMP FOR THE  
BLIND; 25TH ANNIVERSARY PAMPHLET,  
1948-1973. (1973)

[illegible]



BEACON LODGE – CAMP FOR THE BLIND  
YEAR ROUND STAFF

Carl Shoemaker — — — — — *Executive Director\**

Max Hamilton — — — — — *Maintenance Director*

Mrs. Jane W. Jones — — — — — *Bookkeeper\**

Mrs. Janet E. Snyder — — — — — *Secretary\**

Mrs. Marjorie L. Stumpff — — — — — *Secretary\**

*\* Part Time*





**Administration Building at Beacon Lodge**



**BEACON LODGE – CAMP FOR THE BLIND HAS:**

1. **A TRUST FUND** - A trust fund has been created to perpetuate the Beacon Lodge program. It is hoped that in decades to come this fund will grow to a magnitude so as to provide sufficient earnings to insure the camp's operation. This is a permanent fund administered by the Board of Directors of the camp. Include a gift to this trust fund when considering contributions or bequests to charitable organizations.
2. **A BRAND NEW 16 MILLIMETER 27-MINUTE SOUND COLOR FILM** - Available for Lions Club and other organizational programs. This film, "Someone Special", depicts the facilities, special equipment and activities at the camp. Narrated by John Chancellor of the National Broadcasting Company T. V. News. The film is produced and directed by Earl Lewin, Director of the Audio Visuals, General Electric Company. It is available on loan upon request.
3. **A PERMANENT SPONSORSHIP FUND** - A gift of thirteen hundred dollars (\$1,300.00) will be invested and the earnings will provide a one-week sponsorship each summer on a continuing basis. The camp office will assign such sponsorships to deserving and needy camper applicants, so that they Multiples of thirteen hundred dollars provide one camper-week for each unit.
4. **YEAR-ROUND OFFICE** - Potential children and adult campers, interested Lions and others wishing to communicate with a camp official should get in touch with Carl Shoemaker, Executive Director, 658 Valley Street, P. O. Box 222, Lewistown, Pennsylvania 17044. Phone Area Code 717 - 248-5460.